

Message Text

PAGE 01 NATO 00136 121746Z
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AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY SOFIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 0136

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, NATO, UR, YO
SUBJECT: YUGOSLAV-SOVIET RELATIONS: BREZHNEV VISIT

REF: (A) 76 BELGRADE 8166; (B) 76 BELGRADE 7787

1. AT THE JANUARY 11 POLADS MEETING, THE FRG REP
REPORTED THAT HIS AUTHORITIES HAD LEARNED FROM SEVERAL
RELIABLE, INDEPENDENT SOURCES IN YUGOSLAVIA
THAT THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE YUGOSLAV CP
CIRCULATED AMONG CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS IN
THE REPUBLICS AND PROVINCES A SECRET, EIGHT-PAGE
LETTER ABOUT BREZHNEV'S NOVEMBER VISIT TO BELGRADE.

2. ACCORDING TO THESE SOURCES, TITO REJECTED
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PAGE 02 NATO 00136 121746Z

BREZHNEV'S DEMAND FOR GREATER DISCIPLINE IN THE
YUGOSLAV PRESS BY SAYING THAT THE PRESS WAS AN ORGAN
OF THE YUGOSLAV CP AND HAD CORRECTLY EXECUTED
INSTRUCTIONS. TITO ALSO INSISTED THAT BREZHNEV
WITHDRAW HIS STATEMENT AT THE 22ND CPSU PARTY CONGRESS
THAT YUGOSLAVIA WAS PURSUING REVISIONIST POLICIES.
THE YUGOSLAVS FELT THAT THIS AND OTHER SOVIET STATE-
MENTS INDICATED THAT THE USSR WAS STILL PURSUING THE
SAME POLICY AS IN 1948.

3. TITO AND DOLANC CRITICIZED THE SOVIET ATTITUDE TOWARD NONALIGNMENT AFTER BREZHNEV ARGUED THAT IT WAS TIME TO COORDINATE THE POLICIES OF THE NONALIGNED MOVEMENT WITH THOSE OF THE SOCIALIST CAMP. TITO AND DOLANC ALSO REJECTED SOVIET DEMANDS FOR PERMANENT OVERFLIGHT PERMISSION FOR SOVIET MILITARY AIRCRAFT, NAVAL BASES ON THE ADRIATIC COAST, YUGOSLAVIA'S MORE EFFECTIVE INTEGRATION IN COMECON, AND THE COORDINATION OF YUGOSLAVIA'S FOREIGN POLICY WITH THE WARSAW PACT'S.

4. A SEPARATE COMMUNICATION TO SENIOR PARTY FUNCTIONARIES REPORTEDLY REVEALED TITO'S CONCLUSION THAT BREZHNEV HAD COMPLETELY BROKEN ROMANIA'S RESISTANCE TO COORDINATING ITS FOREIGN POLICY WITH THE WARSAW PACT'S BY PLAYING UPON ROMANIA'S ECONOMIC DEPENDENCE ON THE USSR.

5. THE GERMANS BELIEVE THAT YUGOSLAV BEHAVIOR DURING AND AFTER THE VISIT CONFIRMS THEIR IMPRESSION THAT TITO WANTS TO MAXIMIZE RESISTANCE TO ANY POSSIBLE YUGOSLAV RAPPROACHMENT WITH THE SOVIETS DURING HIS LIFETIME AND THAT TITO HAS MADE DOLANCE THE EXECUTOR OF THIS POLICY. STRAUSS-HUPE

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